

Maurice Hinchey NEWS

22nd CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, NEW YORK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 6, 2003

\$1.5 MILLION SECURED BY HINCHEY RELEASED FOR I-84/I-87 INTERCHANGE

KINGSTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (NY-22) today announced that the U.S. Department of Transportation is releasing to the New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT) a grant of \$1,490,250 to be used for the construction of the I-84/I-87 interchange. A member of the House Appropriations Committee, Hinchey secured the funding in the fiscal year 2003 transportation spending bill.

"The completion of the I-84/I-87 interchange is crucial to the economic health of the Hudson Valley," said Hinchey. "I'm glad that I have been in a position to help this important project along."

As a member of the Appropriations Committee, Hinchey helps write the thirteen discretionary spending bills that Congress must pass each year. In this capacity he has direct influence on the funding of federal programs that are important to his constituents. He also has a greater opportunity to request specific earmarks for projects in the district.

Hinchey appropriated the funds for the interchange in the FY '03 Appropriations Bill for the Department of Transportation. That bill was later rolled into an omnibus spending bill that was signed into law in February. Hinchey learned today that NYS DOT has met the necessary federal requirements and that the funds are expected to be released on June 11.